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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania
SUBJECT Chemical Combine of Ucea-de-Sus

REPORT
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REQUIREMENT

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REFERENCES

25X1 DATE OF INFO.

25X1 PLACE ACQUIRED

1. Plans for the construction of a chemical combine at Ucea-de-Sus were drawn up as early as 1940. The Rumanian War Ministry concluded at that time contracts for the construction of this combine

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Construction work was started but had to be stopped because of the deterioration of the war situation.

2. The plans provided for the construction of a series of connected industrial works which were to produce nitro-cellulose, explosives, sulfuric acid and concentrates of sulfuric acid. The construction of a power plant was also included in the plans. When the Soviets took control of Rumanian industry the project came under the jurisdiction of Sovromchim, which had control of the Rumanian chemical industry.

3. Construction work was resumed in 1949. In 1952, Sovromchim took the initiative and set up the Rumanian-East German "Gerochim" which was expected to help complete the project. East German industries were supposed to supply the machines and the technical personnel against a guarantee of 50 percent of the income. Soviet authorities insisted that the combine be completed and ready for operation in 1954.

4. It became evident, however, that this project could not be carried out on time as East German industries were reluctant to release its specialists and the production of the necessary machines was slow because the factories were overburdened with Soviet and government orders. The Soviets then placed at the disposal of the Rumanian Government, against cash payment, unassembled machines produced in the Soviet Sector of Berlin but almost all the machines proved to be unuseable. Czechoslovak industry was then ordered to supply the machines to the Ucea-de-Sus combine.

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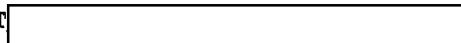
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5. The greatest difficulty encountered in finishing the combine is that the original construction or assembly plans are not available and cannot be procured because the original German firms interested in the combine are in West Germany. The plans worked out by Soviet engineers of Sovromchim are worthless because of a difference in local factors. The Soviets are of the opinion that the original plans must be obtained from the West German firms any way possible.

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